

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

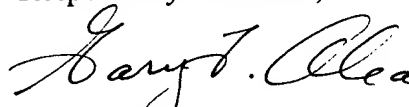
Reconsideration of the current application, as amended under Rule 116, is respectfully requested.

Of previously pending claims 45-88, claims 45-53, 55-59 and 65-83 were allowed; claims 54, 60-62 and 84-87 were rejected on various grounds; and remaining claims 63, 64 and 88 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were considered allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, applicants have effectively canceled claims 54, 60-62 and 84-87, and rewritten claims 63, 64 and 88 in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Specifically, independent claim 54 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 88 which has been canceled; independent claim 60 has been rewritten to include the limitations of claim 63 which has been canceled, and claim 64 has been amended to changed its dependency to amended independent claim 60.

Therefore, the applicants believe that the pending claims 45-60, and 64-83 are now in condition for allowance and should be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, she is requested the undersigned at (408) 446-7687 without hesitation.

Respectfully submitted,



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